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Journal

Office of Legislative Counsel

Monday - 16 November 1953

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1. Talked with Mr. Tom Lavenia, presently No. 2 man to Frank Carr, Staff Director of the Senate Permanent Investigations Subcommittee, and Mr. Don Surine, of the Committee staff, both of whom made comments regarding CIA and its relations with the Committee. (See two Memoranda for the Record this date).

2. I am informed that the briefing of Robert Sprague, Special Consultant to the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee investigating continental defense, will be conducted by ONE and OSI. OCI will not participate.

3. Congressman Albert Thomas of Texas is presently in Washington, but Congressman George Mahon is not expected to return until the session opens in January.

25X1A 4. Mr. [redacted] CIA Budget Officer, informed Mr. Houston and myself of a letter dated 23 October 1953 to Mr. Saunders, CIA Comptroller, from Paul Kamerick, Chief of Investigations for the Senate Appropriations Committee, requesting information regarding Government communications
25X1A costs. Mr. [redacted] had the necessary figures brought together and wished our opinion as to how to avoid answering this request. We pointed out to
25X1A Mr. [redacted] that the deadline for the request was 15 November and already passed, and that the letter should have been brought to my attention immediately when it arrived so that we could have attempted to secure some sort of modification if necessary.

5. I met today with Mr. Paul Kamerick, Chief of Investigations, Senate Appropriations Committee, and Mr. Sinnott of his staff, regarding the requested noted in the preceding paragraph. I pointed out certain security implications which would arise from our reply to this letter, and they agreed that it would be sufficient if CIA were to furnish the cost figures under each item without any further breakdown except as we might see fit. After receipt of such a reply from us, they would let us know any additional information they might need, although they felt such a reply would cover the purposes which they had in mind. Their main purpose is to ascertain the cost to the Government of communications facilities and where there may be overlap or duplication which could be eliminated.

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